

Message Text

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SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

CINCLANT

CINCUSAFE

CINCUSAREUR

USCINCEUR

USLOSACLANT

USNMR SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 3323

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: MPOL, NATO, CA

SUBJ: CANADIAN DEFENSE STRUCTURE REVIEW; CONSULTATIONS

REF: USNATO 3291

CANADIAN CHARGE ROY CALLED ON CHARGE JUNE 18 TO DELIVER PAPER EARLIER PROMISED (REFTEL) TO SERVE AS BASIS FOR CONSULTATIONS ON CANADIAN DEFENSE STRUCTURE REVIEW (TEXT BELOW). ROY PROPOSED US-CANADIAN TALKS BEGINNING MORNING OF JUNE 26, CONTINUING INTO AFTERNOON IF NECESSARY. HE ALSO STRESSED THT HIS AUTHORITIES HOPE TO OBTAIN FINAL WRITTEN US COMMENTS ON PAPER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER CONSULTATIONS, AND WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS DRAFT OF US COMMENTARY DURING THE BILATERAL MEETING. CHARGE ACCEPTED DATE FOR CONSULTATIONS, SUBJECT TO FINAL CONFIRMATION BY AMBASSADOR BRUCE, CONFIDENTIAL

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BUT MADE NO COMMITMENT TO PROVIDE US WRITTEN COMMENTARY FOR USE IN JUNE 26 TALKS. ROY ASKED TO BE INFORMED IN ADVANCE CONCERNING COMPOSITION OF US TEAM, AND SAID THAT COMPOSITION OF CANADIAN TEAM MIGHT BE CHANGED DEPENDING ON US PARTICIPATION. MISSION

COMMENT: WE BELIEVE LEVEL OF OTTAWA PARTICIPATION SUGGESTS WASHINGTON PARTICIPATION AS WELL (REFTEL). ACTION REQUESTED: A) NAMES OF WASHINGTON PARTICIPANTS; AND B) DRAFT US COMMENTARY ON CANADIAN TEXT IF WASHINGTON WISES TO TABLE IT AT JUNE 26 MEETING. ALSO, REQUEST DEPARTMENT NOTIFY AMBASSADOR BRUCE AT ANNAPOLIS SEALINK SYMPOSIUM OF PLANS FOR US-CANADA CONSULTATIONS.

BEGIN TEXT OF COVER NOTE:

THE CANADIAN PREFERENCE IS TO MEET ON THE MORNING OF JUNE 26 WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF DISCUSSIONS CONTINUING IN THE AFTERNOON IF NECESSARY.

THE CANADIAN SIDE WILL CONSIST OF AMBASSADOR MENZIES, ADMIRAL COLLINS AND THREE OFFICIALS FROM

OTTAWA NAMELY MAJOR GENERAL J. CHOUINARD (LAND ENVIRONMENT), MAJOR GENERAL H. MCLACHLAN (AIR ENVIRONMENT) AND C.J. MARSHALL, DIRECTOR OF DEFENCE RELATIONS DIVISION IN THE EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

CONSULTATIONS WILL DEAL WITH POSSIBLE FUTURE OPTIONS FOR THE CANADIAN FORCES STATIONED IN EUROPE, AS DESCRIBED IN THE PAPER.

WE HOPE TO OBTAIN A WRITTEN COMMENTARY ON IT GIVING THEIR CONSIDERED REACTION TO THE OPTIONS ADVANCED. WE WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF THIS WOULD BE AVAILABLE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER CONSULTATIONS ARE OVER.

END TEXT COVER NOTE.

BEGIN TEXT OF PAPER FOR CONSULTATIONS:

CANADIAN DEFENCE STRUCTURE REVIEW
PAPER FOR CONSULTATIONS

THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT IS CONDUCTING A DEFENCE STRUCTURE REVIEW. IN DIRECTING THIS UNDERTAKING, THE GOVERNMENT REAFFIRMED THE ESSENTIAL FEATURES OF CANADA'S CURRENT DEFENCE POLICY, AS REFLECTED IN THE FOUR PRIORITY ROLES OF THE ARMED FORCES, NAMELY:
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- (1) MAINTENANCE OF SOVEREIGNTY, AID TO CIVIL POWER, NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT OF PROGRAMS OF OTHER DEPARTMENTS;
- (2) THE DEFENCE OF NORTH AMERICA IN COOPERATION WITH UNITED STATES FORCES;
- (3) COLLECTIVE DEFENCE UNDER THE NATO ALLIANCE: AND
- (4) INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING.

THE BASIC OBJECTIVES OF THE REVIEW ARE TO DEFINE THE PRECISE TASKS WHICH THE CANADIAN ARMED FORCES SHOULD CARRY OUT, OR BE CAPABLE OF CARRYING OUT, IN ORDER TO PERFORM THESE FOUR ROLES ADEQUATELY: TO DETERMINE WHAT KINDS AND NUMBERS OF OPERATIONAL FORCES ARE REQUIRED TO CARRY OUT THESE TASKS TO A SATIS-

FACTORY LEVEL OF EFFECTIVENESS; AND TO IDENTIFY THE COMMAND AND CONTROL FACILITIES AND THE INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDED TO SUPPORT THOSE OPERATIONAL FORCES. THIS ANALYSIS IS INTENDED TO PROVIDE THE BASIS FOR DECISIONS WITH REGARD TO THE REPLACEMENT OF MAJOR ITEMS OF EQUIPMENT AND, MORE GENERALLY, FOR THE MOST EFFECTIVE UTILIZATION OF RESOURCES IN THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF THE DEFENCE PROGRAM.

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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CINCLANT

CINCUSAFE

CINCUSAREUR

USCINCEUR

USLOSACLANT

USNMR SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 USNATO 3323

LIMDIS

THE PRIME MINISTER RECENTLY RE-AFFIRMED IN BRUSSELS CANADA'S PLEDGE TO MAINTAIN A NATO FORCE LEVEL WHICH IS ACCEPTED BY OUR ALLIES AS BEING ADEQUATE IN SIZE AND EFFECTIVE IN CHARACTER. IT IS THEREFORE A SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE OF THE REVIEW TO IDENTIFY THE OPTIONS, WITH REGARD TO THE PARTICULAR KINDS AND LEVELS OF FORCES CANADA COULD STATION IN EUROPE FOR COMMITMENT TO SACEUR, WHICH WOULD RESPOND TO THIS CRITERION. THIS PARTICULAR OBJECTIVE IS OF CONSIDERABLE URGENCY, BECAUSE DECISIONS WILL HAVE TO BE TAKEN IN THE NEAR FUTURE CONCERNING CERTAIN ITEMS OF EQUIPMENT, NOW HELD BY THE CANADIAN FORCES IN GERMANY, WHICH ARE APPROACHING THE END OF THEIR USEFUL LIFE IN THEIR PRESENT CONFIGURATION.

THERE ARE OUTLINED BELOW CONCEPTUAL OPTIONS FOR CANADIAN FORCES TO BE STATIONED IN EUROPE, WHICH IT IS PROPOSED TO SUBMIT TO THE GOVERNMENT FOR CONSIDERATION.

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THE CANADIAN AUTHORITIES WOULD WELCOME UNITED STATES COMMENTS, REFLECTING BOTH MILITARY AND POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS, ON FORCES STRUCTURED ALONG THE LINES REFLECTED IN THESE OPTIONS. THEY WOULD ALSO BE GLAD TO EXAMINE ANY OTHER COMPARABLE OPTIONS WHICH IN THE UNITED STATES VIEW MIGHT APPEAR TO DESERVE CONSIDERATION.

CANADIAN FORCES CURRENTLY STATIONED IN CENTRAL EUROPE REFLECT A BALANCE OF LAND AND AIR FORCES SITED ON TWO BASES. THE LAND COMPONENT IS CONFIGURED AS AN AUTONOMOUS MECHANIZED BRIGADE GROUP COMPRISING ARMOUR, ARTILLERY, INFANTRY, FIELD ENGINEERS AND SUPPORT TROOPS. THE BRIGADE, MANNED AT TWO-THIRDS FULL STRENGTH, IS EARMARKED FOR ASSIGNMENT TO CENTAG IN A RESERVE ROLE. THE AIR COMPONENT IS CONFIGURED AS AN AUTONOMOUS AIR GROUP, COMPRISING THREE SQUADRONS OF CF-104 AIRCRAFT. THE AIR GROUP IS EARMARKED FOR ASSIGNMENT TO 4 ATAF AND OPERATED IN THE ATTACK ROLE WITH AN AUGMENTATION ROLE IN AIR DEFENCE.

OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO CONTINUE, OR CHANGE THE BALANCE OF CHARACTER OF CANADIAN FORCES STATIONED IN EUROPE INCLUDE:

(A) TO CONTINUE THE CURRENT MIX OF LAND AND AIR FORCES ON THE CENTRAL FRONT BY:

- (1) REPLACING OR REFURBISHING THE CENTRION TANK:
- (2) DISBANDING THE TANK REGIMENT AND INCORPORATING A FOREIGN TANK BATTALION INTO THE BRIGADE GROUP UNDER CANADIAN COMMAND AND CONTROL: OR
- (3) DISBANDING THE MECHANIZED BRIGADE GROUP, AND FORMING A SPECIALIZED ANTI-TANK FORMATION AT A STRENGTH OF APPROXIMATELY 3,000 COMBAT TROOPS: AND
- (4) REPLACING THE CF-104 WITH A DUAL PURPOSE ATTACK/ AIR DEFENCE FIGHTER AIRCRAFT.

(B) CONTRIBUTING AN ALL LAND FORCE CONTINGENT TO THE CENTRAL FRONT BY:

- (1) WITHDRAWING THE AIR GROUP FROM EUROPE: AND
 - (2) REFURBISHING OR REPLACING THE CENTRION TANK IN A FULL STRENGTH MECHANIZED BRIGADE GROUP: OR
 - (3) DISBANDING THE TANK REGIMENT AND INCORPORATING A FOREIGN TANK BATTALION UNDER CANADIAN COMMAND AND CONTROL TO FORM A FULL STRENGTH MECHANIZED BRIGADE GROUP: OR
 - (4) DISBANDING THE MECHANIZED BRIGADE GROUP AND FORMING A SPECIALIZED ANTI-TANK FORMATION AT
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FULL BRIGADE STRENGTH.

(C) CONTRIBUTING AN ALL AIR FORCE CONTINGENT TO THE CENTRAL FRONT BY:

- (1) WITHDRAWING THE MECHANIZED BRIGADE GROUP FROM

EUROPE: AND

(2) INCRASING THE AIR GROUP BY THE ADDITION OF
ONE OR MORE SQUADRONS, AND REPLACING THE CF-104
IN DUE COURSE WITH A DUAL PURPOSE ATTACK/AIR
DEFENCE FIGHTER AIRCRAFT.

POSSIBLE VARIATIONS OF THR FOREGOING OPTIONS HAVE BEEN
IDENTIFIED WHICH THE GOVERNMENT MAY PERHPAS WISH TO EXAMINE AS
WELL. IN PARTICULAR, UNITED STATES AUTHORITIES MIGHT WISH TO
COMMENT ON THE FOLLOWING THREE POSSIBILITIES WITH REGARD TO
A CANADIAN LAND FORMATION TO BE STATIONED IN CENTRAL EUROPE:

(A) PHASING OUT THE CENTURION TANK, AND EQUIPPING THE
BRIGADE GROUP IN FUTURE WITH A TANK OWND BY ANOTHER
NATO COUNTRY AND MADE AVAILABLE BY IT ON SOME AGREED
BASIS, BUT MANNED BY CANADIAN PERSONNEL:

(B) PHASING OUT THE CENTURION TANK, AND EQUIPPING THE
BRIGADE GROUP INSTEAD WITH A LIGHT, TRACKED, DIRECT
FIRE SUPPORT VEHICLE: AND

(C) DISBANDING THE MECHANZIED BRIGADE GROUP, AND RECONSTI-
TUTING THE LAND ELEMENT IN EUROPE AS AN AIR MOBILE
FORMATION CENTRED ON LIGHT AND MEDIUM HELICOPTERS
(INCLUDING ATTACK HELICOPTERS) WITH APPROPRIATE ARTILLERY
AND ANTI-ARMOUR. END TEXT.STREATOR

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